AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R^3 (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A^1 or B^1 or

(b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^1, B^1 or C^1 and

R^4 (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A^2 or B^2 or

(b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^2, B^2 or C^2 and

R^5 (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^3 or B^3 or

(b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^3, B^3 or C^3,

where each of the radicals A^1, A^2, A^3, in each case independently of one another, is hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_{12})$-alkyl, $(C_2$-$C_{12})$-alkenyl, $(C_2$-$C_{12})$-alkynyl, $(C_3$-$C_6)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_5$-$C_6)$-cycloalkenyl, $(C_3$-$C_6)$-cycloalkyl-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, phenyl-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,

where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkoxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$-alkenyloxy, $(C_2$-$C_4)$-haloalkenyloxy, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylthio, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylsulfinyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylsulfonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkylsulfinyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylamino, di-$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylamino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkanoyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkanoyl, [$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy]carbonyl, [$(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case cyclic radicals, also $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkyl,

and

where each of the radicals B^1, B^2, B^3, in each case independently of one another, is $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkanoyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkanoyl, [$(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy]carbonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylsulfinyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkylsulfonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkylsulfinyl or $(C_1$-$C_4)$-haloalkylsulfonyl and

where each of the radicals C^1, C^2, C^3, in each case independently of one another, is an

aliphatic or aromatic heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio and oxo, and

Z, Z', Z'', in the case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O, S, SO, SO_2 or NR',

where R' is hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy,

where each of the 3 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkylthio and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, or

(C_1-C_6)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkanoyloxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyloxy, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl or [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 3 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, or (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, and

m is an integer 0 or 1,

n is an integer 0 or 1 and

o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals R^3, R^4 and R^5 selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and a radical of the formula B^1, B^2 and B^3, respectively.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R^1 is a radical of the formula

-CO-OR or

-C(=NR^a)-OR or

-CO-NR^cR

where each of the radicals R, R^a, R^b and R^c is as defined in formula (I).

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used as safeners against phytotoxic actions of pesticides from the group consisting of herbicides, insecticides, acaricides, nematicides and fungicides.

Claims 8 and 9 (Canceled)

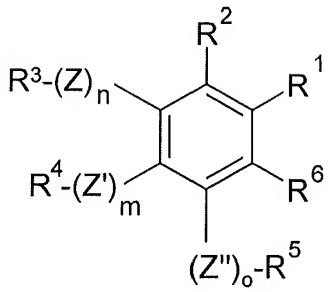
10. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the application is by the post-emergence method.

11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the application is by treating the plant seeds or propagation material.

12. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the application is by the pre-emergence method.

Claims 13 - 20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A method for selectively protecting useful plants ~~or crop plants~~ selected from the group consisting of corn, cereals, rice, cotton and soybean against phytotoxic side effects of ~~agrochemicals~~ one or more herbicides, without substantially reducing the herbicidal activity on weeds, which comprises applying, as safeners, an effective amount of one or more compounds of the formula (I) or salts thereof, before, after or simultaneously with the ~~agrochemicals~~ herbicide or herbicides to the plants, parts of plants, plant seeds or propagation material,



(I)

where

R^1 is a radical of the formula

-CN

-C(=X)-Y-R or

-C(=X)-Het,

in which

X is a divalent radical of the formula O, S or NR^a or $N\text{-}NR^aR^b$, where R^a and R^b are as defined below,

Y is a group of the formula O or S

R is hydrogen, (C_1-C_{18})-alkyl, (C_2-C_{18})-alkenyl, (C_2-C_{18})-alkynyl, (C_3-C_9)-cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)-cycloalkenyl, (C_3-C_9)-cycloalkyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl,

where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)-haloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, or

(C_1-C_6)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-

alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl,

and, including substituents, has 1 to 30 C-atoms, and

Het is an aliphatic N-heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is attached via a heterocyclic ring N-atom to the group C(=X) and which optionally contains, as heterocyclic ring atoms, in addition to the N-atom in the yl-position, further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio and oxo,

where each of the radicals R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e in the radicals X and Y, in each case independently of one another and independently of the radical R, is as defined for R or a radical of the formula -OR*, where R*, independently of R, is as defined for R, and

R^2 and R^6, in each case independently of one another, are hydrogen, halogen, SCN, CN, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)-alkynyl or (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl,

where each of the 4 last mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl,

and

R^3 (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,

halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A^1 or B^1 or

(b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^1, B^1 or C^1 and

R^4 (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A^2 or B^2 or

(b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^2, B^2 or C^2 and

R^5 (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^3 or B^3 or

(b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula A^3, B^3 or C^3,

where each of the radicals A^1, A^2, A^3, in each case independently of one another, is hydrogen, (C_1-C_{18})-alkyl, (C_2-C_{18})-alkenyl, (C_2-C_{18})-alkynyl, (C_3-C_9)-cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_9)-cycloalkenyl, (C_3-C_9)-cycloalkyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_{12})-alkyl,

where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)-haloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl,

and

where each of the radicals B^1, B^2, B^3, in each case independently of one another, is (C_1-C_6)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl and

where each of the radicals C^1, C^2, C^3, in each case independently of one another, is an

aliphatic or aromatic heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio and oxo, and

Z, Z', Z'', in each case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O, $S(O)_x$ or NR', where x = 0, 1 or 2 and R' is hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyl, (C_2-C_4)-alkynyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)-alkynyloxy or (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyloxy,

where each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, or

(C_1-C_6)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkanoyloxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyloxy, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyloxy, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyloxy, phenoxycarbonyloxy, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyloxy or [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyloxy, where the phenyl ring of each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, or aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl,

m is an integer 0 or 1,

n is an integer 0 or 1 and

o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals R^3, R^4 and R^5 is selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and a radical of the formula B^1, B^2 and B^3, respectively.

22. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

Z' is a group of the formula O,

Z" is a group of the formula O, and

Z"' is a group of the formula O.

23. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R is hydrogen, (C_1-C_{12})-alkyl, (C_2-C_{12})-alkenyl, (C_2-C_{12})-alkynyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_6)-cycloalkenyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,
where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_2-C_4)-alkenyloxy, (C_2-C_4)-haloalkenyloxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl,
or
(C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di[-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl and/or

Het is the radical of an aliphatic N-heterocycle selected from the group consisting of piperazinyl, piperidinyl, oxazolidinyl, isoxazolidinyl and morpholinyl, which is in each case attached via the N-ring atom and which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or

more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio and oxo,

where each of the radicals R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d and R^e in the radicals X and Y, in each case independently of one another and of the radical R, is as defined for R or a radical of the formula -OR*, where R*, independently of R, is as defined for R.

24. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R^1 is a radical of the formula -CO-OR, where

R is hydrogen, (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, (C_2-C_8)-alkenyl, (C_2-C_8)-alkynyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

where each of the 9 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl.

25. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R^1 is a radical of the formula

-CO-OH or

$-CO-O^- M^+$ or

-CO-OR ,

where

R is (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy and (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, and

M^+ is a cation equivalent of an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal, or an unsubstituted or substituted ammonium ion.

26. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein

R^1 is a radical of the formula -C(=NR^a)-OR, where

R is (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, (C_2-C_8)-alkenyl, (C_2-C_8)-alkynyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

where each of the 9 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkylthio, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, mono-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C_1-C_4)-alkyl and (C_1-C_4)-haloalkyl,

or (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl

and

R^a is (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C_1-C_4)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C_1-C_4)-alkylamino]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)-haloalkylsulfonyl.

27. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein
one, two or three of the radicals $R^3(Z)_n$, $R^4(Z')_m$ and $R^5(Z'')_o$ are hydroxyl or an acyloxy group, wherein acyl is (C_1-C_4)alkanoyl, (C_1-C_4)haloalkanoyl, [(C_1-C_4)alkoxy]carbonyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_4)alkylsulfonyl, (C_1-C_4)haloalkylsulfinyl or (C_1-C_4)haloalkylsulfonyl.

28. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein
one, two or three of the radicals $R^3(Z)_n$, $R^4(Z')_m$ and $R^5(Z'')_o$ are hydroxyl or acetyloxy.

29. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used as safeners against phytotoxic actions of herbicides.

30. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the herbicides are selected from the group consisting of carbamates, thiocarbamates, haloacetanilides, substituted phenoxy-, naphthoxy- and phenoxyphenoxycarboxylic acid derivatives and heteroaryloxyphenoxyalkanecarboxylic acid derivatives, cyclohexanedione oximes, benzoylcyclohexanediones, benzoylisoxazoles, benzoylpyrazoles, imidazolinones, pyrimidinyloxypyridinecarboxylic acid derivatives, pyrimidyloxybenzoic acid derivatives, sulfonylureas, sulfonylaminocarbonyltriazolinones, triazolopyrimidinesulfonamide derivatives, phosphinic acid derivatives and salts thereof, glycine derivatives, triazolinones, triazinones and also S-(N-aryl-N-alkylcarbamoylmethyl)dithiophosphoric esters, pyridinecarboxylic acids, pyridines, pyridinecarboxamides and 1,3,5-triazines.

31. (Previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the herbicides are selected from the group consisting of phenoxyphenoxy- and heteroaryloxyphenoxycarboxylic acid esters and salts, cyclohexanedione oximes, benzoylcyclohexanediones, benzoylisoxazoles, sulfonylureas, sulfonylaminocarbonyltriazolinones and imidazolinones.

32. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the herbicide is applied with the safener for selective controlling of unwanted organisms in the useful crop.

33. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the useful crop is a cereal crop.

34. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the useful crop is a corn crop.

35. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the useful crop is a rice crop.

36. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the useful crop is a cotton crop.

37. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the useful crop is a soybean crop.